

The Groundplane

SBARA—The South Bay Amateur Radio Association
KU6S Newsletter

July, 2012
Volume 13, Issue 7



Presidents Message

June is over – and what a month it was.

The most important event of course was Field Day. Did you have fun there? I certainly did. Apart from some minor glitches (one of which almost brought the 20m station down for good – more about that in Al's Field Day article!), I think it went exceptionally smooth. For the first time in the five years I set up a station I didn't run into interference problems from the other stations we had on site. Two things contributed to this fact:

we had prepared a site layout which ensured that all antennas were as far apart as possible. Next year we need to integrate the satellite station into that layout, they actually had interference from the 20m antenna (no wonder, the satellite tent was right under the 20m beam). I used a very nice radio with good filtering capabilities, a 20m filter in the antenna line and a coax stub to prevent other bands from reaching my receiver.

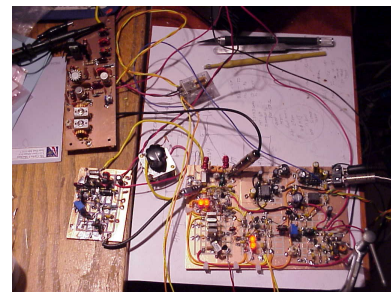
The right tools and good preparation obviously are the keys to success (any surprise here?). The event ran for the full 24 hours without a hitch, I believe all tents were staffed for the entire time. We got some good input on what to improve for next year, e.g. using less noisy generators. Of course, this needs volunteers to work on it.

Saturday Jul 7th Al WT6K and I went on a foxhunt. For me it was the first after a year or so, for Al it was a much longer break. We both enjoyed it a lot. We came in as third of (I think) six parties, not too bad. However a small error resulted in an astonishing loss of six miles. As every time we're doing this we learned something.

Ah yes, we had some business to do, too. We did have a staff meeting, delayed by a week due to the Field Day. As expected, this time there weren't too many things to discuss, the meeting was adjourned within less than 45 minutes. The main things we discussed were some post Field Day thoughts.

See you at the membership meeting!
Bernhard AE6YN

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What is This?

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Special Points of Interest

Field Day Wrap-Up
July is Communications Month
Field Day Photos

SBARA Field Day 2012 Wrap-up



Friday, June 22nd, 9:00AM – The setup crew started arriving and discussing where to begin. Bernhard AE6YN had previously surveyed the site and made a station/antenna layout using Google Earth. From that plan everyone started setting up the station tents and antennas. Ken Lippman KI6RJL brought the ice and Sid Parker KA6YBK brought the drinks to keep the work crews hydrated. We broke for lunch which was cooked by Al WT6K; hot dogs with all the fixings and fresh fruit for dessert. The crew worked so well together that by late afternoon most of the stations were tested and operational. As always, in emergency conditions there are surprises. The crew putting up the 20M three element YAGI had the mast snap and a quick hacksaw effort by the crew to cut off a short piece that bent got the mast operational.

Saturday, June 23rd, 8:30AM – Ken Parker KJ6ANR and Steve Wilson KG6HJU arrived to drive the truck to pick up the tables and chairs for the potluck dinner later in the day. Ernie KF6FFE arrived with his gas generator to power some of the stations. The station captains put the final touches on their equipment.

Umesh K6VUG's satellite station with antennas powered by an Arduino controller was ready to go when the first satellite passes after Field Day started. As the day progressed the contacts started to accumulate and a large group of operators kept the stations running until 5PM when the potluck began. A crew set up the tables and chairs and taped down the checkered tablecloth. Steve KA6S and Umesh K6VUG brought the main entrees for the potluck Ken and Sid Did all the shopping for the drinks, flatware, cups and plates. At the potluck, Wayne Springsteen WU6A was bestowed with the honor of SBARA Life Membership to the applause of everyone attending.

Sunday, June 24th, 12:00AM – Satellites are passing and Umesh is still making contacts.

The 15M station has been changed over to 80M for the night. 20M is still open and the operators are making contacts and 40M station has changed over from SSB to CW mode. These four stations continue operating all night long with a dedicated crew of operators. As the sun comes up, and breakfast arrives, 40M is returned to SSB and the 80M station is put back on 15M. Operation continues right up to 11:00AM when the microphone and paddles are 'pried' from the hands of the 'diehard' operators. It was gratifying to see all the help arrive to 'breakdown' the station/antennas.

(Cont'd. on Page 3)

SBARA Field Day 2012 Wrap-Up

(Cont'd. from Page 2)

Once activity on 15m died down, the 80m station was activated late Saturday night. For the first couple of hours, JJ (NW6J) operated on SSB, with Greg (WY6P) logging the contacts. Among the pile-up was a familiar callsign, N6WN. It was Dan Curtis responding to a CQ call from Oregon. The duo logged about 150 contacts in the 2-hour period.

Preliminary results from logs show the fruits of all the operator's efforts at 1900 contacts. The satellite station even worked the international space station. Thanks to all the SBARA members that made this year's Field Day possible. Mark your calendar for next year's event and plan to join the fun with your friends and fellow members.

73,
Al
WT6K



To view the SBARA Field Day photos that JJ Lerma, NW6J took during Field Day you can use this URL to access Shutterfly.

**The URL is: <http://sbara.shutterfly>.
The password is — hamradio**

Enjoy the photos!!



[Do1Thing](#)

[Family Communications Plan](#)

SBARA has joined the ranks of Media. Be sure to check us out on Facebook. SBARA's address is:

www.facebook.com/groundplane

Come on up and check us out and help keep the site going strong!

Support SBARA's Monthly Raffle!!



JULY IS EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS MONTH



GOAL:

Have the ability to communicate with family members during a disaster.

Things to do...

Below is a list of things that you can do to achieve your goal this month. Choose at least one, and complete it.

[Have a phone with a cord and a car charger for your cell phone standing by in case of a power failure.](#)

[Develop a plan for how your family will stay in touch during a disaster.](#)

[Program In Case of Emergency \(ICE\) numbers into all family cell phones.](#)

[Download the Fact Sheet](#)

SMALL STEPS TOWARD BEING PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY

THE GOAL: Have the ability to communicate with family members during a disaster.

Today we have more ways to speak with one another than ever before. We are used to staying in touch with cell phones, internet, and email, but disasters can change things. These devices may not be available. Cell phone towers quickly become overloaded with people trying to reach friends and family. If the power is out at your home, cordless phones, internet, and email will not work either.



Calendar

Fri Jul 13, 6 pm pre SBARA Meeting dinner at Zorbas, 46505 Mission Blvd.
Fri Jul 13, 7:30 pm SBARA membership meeting, Hurricane Electric, 760 Mission Ct
Sat Jul 14, 9:00 – 11:30 pm Tri-City VE session, Hurricane Electric, 48233 Warm Springs Blvd
Sun Jul 15, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz
Mon Jul 16, 7:30 pm SBARA net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
Tue Jul 17, 7:30 pm ARES net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
Thu Jul 19, 7:30 pm Fremont ARES meeting, 3300 Capitol, Building A
Thu Jul 19 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz
Sun Jul 22, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz
Mon Jul 23, 7:30 pm SBARA net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
Tue Jul 24, 7:30 pm ARES net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
Thu Jul 26, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz
Sun Jul 29, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz
Mon Jul 30, 7:00 pm SBARA board meeting, Mission Coffee, 151 Washington Blvd
Mon Jul 30, 7:30 pm SBARA net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
Tue Jul 31, 7:30 pm ARES net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
Thu Aug 2, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz
Sun Aug 5, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz
Mon Aug 6, 7:30 pm SBARA net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
Tue Aug 7, 7:30 pm ARES net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
Thu Aug 9, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz
Fri Aug 10, 6 pm pre SBARA Meeting dinner at Zorbas, 46505 Mission Blvd.
Fri Aug 10, 6 pm SBARA membership meeting, Hurricane Electric, 760 Mission Ct

Slow CW Net

The Slow CW net is taking place every Thursday and Sunday night at 7:30 pm on 144.230 MHz.

You need an “all mode” (i.e. not just an FM) radio in order to follow.

The net has now its own e-mail address. Please contact us here:
“SF Bay CW Enthusiasts” <sf-bay-cw-enthusiasts at googlegroups.com>

-... ..-

Bernhard AE6YN



The ARRL East Bay Section Web Page Moved.

The new URL is <http://www.arrleastbaysection.org/>

Don't forget to update this information in your bookmarks, club newsletters and on your club web pages.



Club Net:

Technical information net - Every Monday night at 7:30 pm. On the Fremont Repeater 147.015 MHz.+600 kHz WITH 107.2 Hz PL.

Get Involved with SBARA

...come to a monthly meeting.

Our regular meetings take place the second Friday of the month at Hurricane Electric. Pre-Meeting social dinner begins at 6pm. Then at 7pm our meeting social begins with the monthly meeting starting at 7:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend, regardless of whether you are a member. Bring a friend! Or if you're thinking about becoming a ham, come and learn about the hobby!

...become a member.

Membership is open to all licensed radio amateurs. The annual membership fee of \$35 help support the upkeep of our repeater, as well as participate in the Annual Field Day, plus other communication events.

...join a fox hunt.

On the Saturday of the month (around 7pm) organizes a good old fashioned fox hunt. The starting point is in Fremont, Ca.

...take a VE test.

VE testing is scheduled throughout the year on the second Saturday of the month on even months and on the second Tuesday of the month. Details are in this issue of the Groundplane.

Important!



Club Auction of Equipment

At a special meeting in April the SBARA Board of Directors approved the auction of certain club owned equipment. The approved process is to first have a silent auction at a SBARA meeting for the membership. Then any equipment that did not get purchased will be put up on eBay for auction. At the SBARA meeting the equipment will be available for your inspection and you will have the opportunity to make an offer if you want any of the displayed items. The board has decided that there will be a 'starting' bid price based on the items 'fair market value'. The dates will be announced in advance for all members to attend.

SBARA BOD

Tri-City VE Test Dates

Exams will be administered at Hurricane Electric, 48233 Warm Springs Blvd., Fremont.

Contact: Bernhard, ae6yn at arrl dot net for info. \$15 fee. Walk-ins allowed.

Tri-City VE Session Dates 2012

Sat, Jul 14, 9:00 - 11:30 am

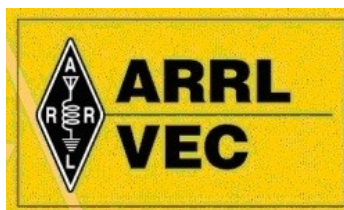
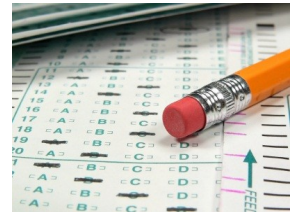
Tue, Aug 14, 6:30 - 9:00 pm

Sat, Sep 8, 9:00 - 11:30 am

Tue, Oct 9, 6:30 - 9:00 pm

Sat, Nov 10, 9:00 - 11:30 am

Tue, Dec 11, 6:30 - 9:00 pm



Fremont Repeaters & Net Information

*Are you looking for your favorite Repeater?
Here is information you can use!*

WA6PWW— 147.015 + 600Khz, PL 103.5	600Khz, PL 123.0 K6AIR—441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0
WA6PWW—223.900— 500Khz, PL 107.2	ARES Net Meeting— Tuesday Evenings @ 7:30pm on 147.015+600Khz, PL 103.5
WA6PWW—442.600 +5Mhz, PL107.2	
K6AIR—146.940—	

Time to dust off those Keys....

The Slow CW net is taking place.....
Every Thursday and Sunday night at 7:30 pm on
144.230MHz.

The net has now its own e-mail address. Please contact us
here:

"SF Bay CW Enthusiasts" <sf-bay-cw-enthusiasts at google-
groups.com>

SBARA Meeting Second Friday of the Month

Our meeting location is at:
Hurricane Electric.
The address in Fremont is:
760 Mission Court — Come to the meeting.
Bring your HF transceiver, antenna or HT !
Talk-In 147.015Mhz. +600
Mingle with your fellow SBARA members!

The South Bay Amateur Radio Association., is a general interest amateur radio club serving the Fremont Tri-City area. Records indicate the club has been in existence since at least 1974, and has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, an California not-for-profit corporation, and a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization as specified in IRS Statutes. We sponsor training classes for new hams, license examination sessions, and participate in various public service events. If you have a specialized amateur radio interest, chances are you can share it with one or more of our club members.

The South Bay Amateur Radio Association meets on the 2nd Friday of every month at Hurricane Electric in Fremont. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM and includes social time, a business portion and a program of interest.

All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Families are welcome.

We hope to see you there!



**South Bay Amateur Radio
Association - SBARA**
Founded 1974
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Facebook—[www.facebook.com/
groundplane](http://www.facebook.com/groundplane)

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Open Position

SBARA - Groundplane

The Groundplane is published monthly by the South Bay Amateur Radio Association. Articles and letters are always welcome. The normal deadline for material is the 20th day of each month for the next month's news-letter. Articles can be sent by email to hamradio at Comcast dot net or via U.S. Mail. Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines.



Upcoming SBARA Events

July Action Packed Meeting

July 13th, 2012 at 7:30pm Hurricane Electric, Fremont

Amateur License Exams

ARRL VEC– July 14th @ 11:30 am at Hurricane Electric – 48233 Warm Springs Blvd. Fremont. **Contact:** Bernhard, ae6yn at arrl dot net for info. \$15 fee.

***Additional information is described at Website,
www.sbara.org***

Select License Exams from the Navigation URL.

South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA

The Ground Plane — KU6S

<http://www.sbara.org>

P.O. Box 8401

Fremont, Ca.

PLEASE
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